

HUMPBACK CHUB
(*Gila cypha*)

STATUS: Endangered (32 FR 4001, March 11, 1967) with critical habitat (59 FR 13374, March 21, 1994)

SPECIES DESCRIPTION: Fairly large (less than 51 cm (20 in) long) minnow characterized by a narrow, flattened head and long fleshy snout, large fins, and a very large hump between the head and the dorsal fin.

HABITAT: Occurs in a variety of riverine habitats, especially canyon areas with fast current, deep pools, and boulder habitat. Generally found in habitats below 1,219 m (4,000 ft) in elevation.

RANGE: Historic: Endemic to the Colorado River Basin from below Lake Mead to Flaming Gorge on the Green River, Wyoming, and the Yampa River, Colorado. Their historic distribution in the Colorado River Basin is uncertain.

Current: The species occurs in the Grand Canyon and Marble Canyon (Coconino County, Arizona) portions of the mainstream Colorado River (Mohave County, Arizona) and in the lower Little Colorado River. It also is found in portions of the Colorado and Green rivers of Utah and Colorado as well as portions of the Yampa River in Colorado.

REASONS FOR DECLINE/VULNERABILITY: Alteration of historic habitat caused by dam construction and operation, water diversion, and channelization; competition with and predation by exotic fishes; and hybridization with other *Gila* species.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: In Arizona: National Park Service, Navajo Reservation, and Hualapai Reservation.

NOTES: A Recovery Plan was approved in August 1979 and revised in May 1984 and September 1990. A copy of the recovery plan can be found online at:
<http://arizonaes.fws.gov/Documents/RecoveryPlans/Humpback%20Chub%201990.pdf>

Critical habitat for the humpback chub is designated for portions of the Colorado, Green, and Yampa Rivers in the Upper Basin and the Colorado and Little Colorado Rivers in the Lower Basin in Colorado, Utah, and Arizona.

Listed as a Species of Special Concern by the State of Arizona.